

Employee Post-Travel Disclosure of Travel Expenses

Date/Time Stamp:

RECEIVED
SECRETARY OF THE SENATE
PUBLIC RECORDS

17 SEP 11 PM 3:53

Post-Travel Filing Instructions: Complete this form within 30 days of returning from travel. Submit all forms to the **Office of Public Records in 232 Hart Building**.

In compliance with Rule 35.2(a) and (c), I make the following disclosures with respect to travel expenses that have been or will be reimbursed/paid for me. I also certify that I have attached:

- ☒ The original *Employee Pre-Travel Authorization* (Form RE-1), **AND**
- ☒ A copy of the *Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form* with all attachments (itinerary, invitee list, etc.)

Private Sponsor(s) (list all): American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)

Travel date(s): August 12-20, 2017

Name of accompanying family member (if any): N/A

Relationship to Traveler: ☐ Spouse ☐ Child

IF THE COST OF LODGING DID NOT INCREASE DUE TO THE ACCOMPANYING SPOUSE OR DEPENDENT CHILD, ONLY INCLUDE LODGING COSTS IN EMPLOYEE EXPENSES. (Attach additional pages if necessary.)

Expenses for Employee:

	Transportation Expenses	Lodging Expenses	Meal Expenses	Other Expenses (Amount & Description)
<input type="checkbox"/> Good Faith Estimate	\$2,336.51	\$1,619.00	\$1,105.10	\$2,673.50 (see description attached)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Actual Amount				

Expenses for Accompanying Spouse or Dependent Child (if applicable):

	Transportation Expenses	Lodging Expenses	Meal Expenses	Other Expenses (Amount & Description)
<input type="checkbox"/> Good Faith Estimate				
<input type="checkbox"/> Actual Amount				

Provide a description of all meetings and events attended. See Senate Rule 35.2(c)(6). (Attach additional pages if necessary.): See final itinerary attached

9/11/17
(Date)

Toni-Mae Higgins
(Printed name of traveler)

[Signature]
(Signature of traveler)

TO BE COMPLETED BY SUPERVISING MEMBER/OFFICER:

I have made a determination that the expenses set out above in connections with travel described in the *Employee Pre-Travel Authorization* form, are necessary transportation, lodging, and related expenses as defined in Rule 35.

9/11/17
(Date)

[Signature]
(Signature of Supervising Senator/Officer)

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8:00 - 9:00 AM	<i>Israeli Politics Primer</i> Breakfast with Professor Reuven Hazan Political Science Department, Hebrew University - at the Inbal hotel
9:15 AM	Depart hotel
9:30 AM - 12:30 PM	<i>Strategic Overview of Jerusalem, Part I : The Old City and the Holy Basin</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Church of the Holy Sepulcher • Via Dolorosa • Southern Wall Excavations • Western Wall • City of David
12:30 PM	Depart
1:00 - 2:30 PM	<i>Regional Threats Overview and the Palestinian Street</i> Lunch with <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amos Harel, Military Affairs Correspondent, <i>Ha'aretz</i> • Avi Issacharoff, Arab Affairs Correspondent, <i>The Times of Israel</i> - at Caffit Botanical Gardens
2:45 PM	Depart for the Knesset
3:00 PM	Security check
3:30 - 4:30 PM	<i>Israeli Democracy in Action</i> Meetings with Members of Knesset <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Honorable Merav Ben Ari, Kulana Party • The Honorable Ofer Shelah, Yesh Atid Party - at the Knesset
4:45 PM	Depart
5:00 – 6:00 PM	<i>Strategic Overview of Jerusalem</i> <i>Part II: Jerusalem's Outlying Neighborhoods and the Security Barrier</i>
6:00 – 6:30 PM	Return to hotel
7:45 PM	Depart for dinner

SECRET

Dinner with Knesset Staffers from various political parties

- at Touro

Overnight at the Inbal Hotel

7:45 AM

8:00 – 9:00 AM

9:15 AM

Depart the hotel

9:45 AM – 12:00 PM

The Meaning of the Holocaust in the Israeli Psyche

Visit to Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial and Museum

12:00 PM

Depart

12:30 – 2:15 PM

Palestinian Perspective
Lunch with Nidal Foqaha
Director General, Palestinian Peace Coalition/Geneva Initiative
- at the American Colony hotel

2:15 PM

Depart

2:45 - 4:00 PM

A View from the Prime Minister's Office
Meeting with David Keyes
Spokesperson to the Prime Minister
- at the Crowne Plaza Hotel

4:00-5:15 PM	Travel to Tel Aviv
	En route briefing: <i>Let There Be Water: Israel Solves its Water Crisis</i>
5:15 PM	Check into Sheraton Tel Aviv Hotel
7:30 PM	Depart for dinner
8:00 – 10:00 PM	Israel's Work at Home and Abroad: From Start Up to Tikkun Olam Dinner with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gidon Bromberg, EcoPeace • Eytan Buchman, Freightos • Dr. Sion Hour, Save A Child's Heart • Sivan Ya'ari, Innovation Africa - at Deca
10:00 PM	Overnight at the Sheraton Tel Aviv Hotel

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16

7:45 AM	Breakfast is served -at the Sheraton Tel Aviv
8:00 – 9:15 AM	Israel's Missile Defense Breakfast with Col. Yaniv Rotem, Head of Lower Tier, Israel Missile Defense Organization -at the Sheraton Tel Aviv
9:15 AM	Depart for southern Israel
10:30-11:15 AM	<i>Life under Rocket Fire, Part I</i> <i>Briefings on Israel's Border with the Gaza Strip</i> - at Kibbutz Nir Am
11:15 AM	Depart
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM	<i>Life Under Rocket Fire, Part II</i> <i>Meeting with Oshrit Sabag, local resident</i> - at Kibbutz Nahal Oz
12:30 PM	Depart

1:00 – 2:00 PM	Service in the IDF Today Lunch with Israeli Soldiers -at Leonardo, Ashkelon
2:00 PM	Depart
2:30 – 3:00 PM	<i>U.S.-Israel Cooperation: Iron Dome</i> IDF Briefing at Iron Dome Battery - at Ashkelon
3:00 PM	Depart
4:15 PM - 5:15 PM	<i>Arab-Israeli Perspective</i> Meeting with Mohammed Darawshe, Director of Planning, Equality, and Shared Living, Givat Haviva Educational Institute - at the Sheraton Tel Aviv hotel
5:15 PM	Meeting ends
7:15PM	Depart for dinner
7:45 – 9:30 PM	<i>Israel's Approach to Social Issues</i> Dinner with <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tziona Koenig-Yair, Immediate Past National Commissioner, Equal Employment Opportunities Commission • Rabbi Dov Lipman, Director of Public Diplomacy, World Zionist Organization • Pnina Radai, Resource Development Manager, Olim Beyahad • Dan Slyper, LGBT Caucus, Yesh Atid Party - at Spoons
9:30 PM	Overnight at the Sheraton Tel Aviv Hotel

THURSDAY, AUGUST 17

7:30 AM	Luggage in the lobby Check out
7:45 AM	Breakfast is served

8:00 - 9:15 AM	<i>Why a Jewish State?</i> Breakfast with Dr. Einat Wilf Senior Fellow, Jewish People Policy Institute - at the Sheraton Tel Aviv hotel
9:15 AM	Depart for Israel's North
10:15 - 10:45 AM	<i>Israel's Narrow Waistline</i> Briefing at Alfei Menashe
10:45 AM - 12:15 PM	Depart
	En route briefings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Jezreel Valley:</i> <i>The Strategic Land Bridge connecting Asia and Africa</i> • <i>Upper Galilee: Potential for Development</i>
12:15 - 1:15 PM	Lunch - at Dona Rosa, Ein Hod
1:15 PM	Depart
2:45 - 4:00 PM	<i>Treating Syria's Wounded</i> Visit to Ziv Medical Center
4:00 PM	Depart
4:45 - 5:30 PM	<i>Hizballah Next Door</i> Strategic briefing on the border with Lebanon With Lt. Col. (Res.) Sarit Zehavi, Northern Border Expert - at Mt. Adir
5:30 PM	Depart
6:30 PM	Check into the Galei Kineret Hotel
8:00 PM	Depart for dinner
8:15 - 10:00 PM	<i>Northern Exposure: Life on the Border with Lebanon and Syria</i> Dinner and discussion - at Decks
10:00 PM	Overnight at the Galei Kineret Hotel

FRIDAY, AUGUST 18

7:30 AM	Breakfast on own Luggage in the lobby Check out
8:30 AM	Depart
9:00 - 11:00 AM	<i>Historical, Religious and Geopolitical Significance of the Sea of Galilee</i> Visit to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mount of Beatitudes• Church of the Primacy of Saint Peter• Capernaum
11:00 AM	Visits ends, depart, travel to the Golan Heights
12:00 - 1:00 PM	<i>The Tragedy in Syria</i> Strategic survey of the Israeli-Syrian border With Cpt. (Res.) Ilan Shulman - at Kibbutz Ein Zivan
1:00 PM	Depart
1:15 - 2:15 PM	Lunch - at Habokrim
2:15 - 5:30 PM	Depart for Jerusalem Travel via the Jordan Valley En route briefings: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Israel's Relations with the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan</i>• <i>Jordan's Syrian Refugee Crisis</i>
5:30 PM	Check into the Inbal Hotel
7:15 PM	Depart
7:45 - 9:00 PM	<i>Reflections on the Sabbath in Jerusalem</i> Dinner with Rabbi Susan Silverman and Yossi Abramowitz - at their home in Jerusalem
9:00 PM	Overnight at the Inbal Hotel

SATURDAY, AUGUST 19

7:30 AM Breakfast on own
- at the hotel

8:00 – 9:30 AM Depart

En route briefing:
Jericho Road and the E-1 Corridor: Strategic Concerns

9:30 – 11:45 AM *History and Geopolitics of the Roman Empire*
Visit to Masada National Archeological Site

11:45 AM Depart

12:00 – 1:30 PM *Israel's Experience in Fighting the Encroachment of Desertification*
Visit to the Dead Sea and lunch
- at Herods

1:30 PM Depart for Jerusalem

3:00 PM Return to hotel
Prepare for departure
Check out

5:30 PM Depart

6:30 - 8:15 PM *The U.S.-Israel Relationship: Bringing it All Together*
Closing dinner
- at Ester's

8:15 PM Depart for Ben Gurion Airport

11:10 PM Saturday - United #91 departs Ben Gurion Airport
4:15 AM Sunday

SUNDAY, AUGUST 20

4:15 AM United #91 arrives at Newark Liberty International Airport

6:00 AM United #4931 departs Newark Liberty International Airport

7:33 AM United #4931 arrives Washington Dulles International Airport

EMPLOYEE PRE-TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION

Date/Time Stamp:

Pre-Travel Filing Instructions: Complete and submit this form at least 30 days prior to the travel departure date to the **Select Committee on Ethics in SH-220**. Incomplete and late travel submissions will not be considered or approved. This form must be typed and is available as a fillable PDF on the Committee's website at ethics.senate.gov. Retain a copy of your entire pre-travel submission for your required post-travel disclosure.

Name of Traveler: Toni-Marie Higgins

Employing Office/Committee: Senator John Boozman

Private Sponsor(s) (list all): American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)

Travel date(s): August 12-20, 2017

Note: If you plan to extend the trip for any reason you must notify the Committee.

Destination(s): Israel

Explain how this trip is specifically connected to the traveler's official or representational duties:

As the primary foreign policy advisor to Senator Boozman, a member of the State and Foreign Operations Subcommittee on Appropriations, this trip will allow me to evaluate in person the programs and activities funded by U.S. assistance to Israel. Given the continuing conflict in the region, the trip will also help in advising the Senator on future U.S. involvement and aid.

Name of accompanying family member (if any): _____

Relationship to Employee: ☐ Spouse ☐ Child

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete and correct to the best of my knowledge:

7/13/17
(Date)

Toni-Marie Higgins
(Signature of Employee)

TO BE COMPLETED BY SUPERVISING SENATOR/OFFICER (President of the Senate, Secretary of the Senate, Sergeant at Arms, Secretary for the Majority, Secretary for the Minority, and Chaplain):

I, Senator John Boozman hereby authorize Toni-Marie Higgins
(Print Senator's/Officer's Name) (Print Traveler's Name)

an employee under my direct supervision, to accept payment or reimbursement for necessary transportation, lodging, and related expenses for travel to the event described above. I have determined that this travel is in connection with his or her duties as a Senate employee or an officeholder, and will not create the appearance that he or she is using public office for private gain.

I have also determined that the attendance of the employee's spouse or child is appropriate to assist in the representation of the Senate. (signify "yes" by checking box) ☐

7/13/17
(Date)

John Boozman
(Signature of Supervising Senator/Officer)

Subject: Invitation: Congressional Staff Seminar in Israel, Summer 2017

Date: Tuesday, March 21, 2017 at 2:35:15 PM Eastern Daylight Time

From: Aubrey Lopez

To: Higgins, Toni-Marie (Boozman)

Hi Toni-Marie,

Please see the invitation below. If you have any questions you can reach me at 202-330-4422.

Best,
Aubrey

Aubrey López

Israel Seminars Project Manager

202-330-4422 • Cell 956-778-3441

AIEF • The American Israel Education Foundation



AMERICAN ISRAEL EDUCATION FOUNDATION

March 21, 2017

Toni-Marie Higgins
Office of the Honorable John Boozman
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Toni-Marie,

We would like to invite you to join us for an educational seminar in Israel for

congressional staff sponsored by the American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF). This year we are offering two seminars. This first trip will depart on Saturday, July 1 and return on Sunday, July 9. The second trip will depart on Saturday, August 12 and return on Sunday, August 20. If you would like to participate in one of these educational seminars, please indicate your preferred dates on the confirmation form.

The trip will explore critical foreign policy and national security challenges facing both Israel and the United States and how the two countries are cooperating in dealing with these issues. The program will include discussions with Israeli government officials, military officers, members of the Knesset, U.S. officials, Palestinian representatives and leading academics and journalists. The program will also include:

- Briefings on the status of Iranian compliance with the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, and Iran's continued malign regional activities;
- In-depth discussions on the Israeli and Palestinian political climate and prospects for peace, as well as the political changes taking place in the region;
- A visit to Israel's southern border and briefings on the threat posed by the terrorist organization Hamas which maintains control over the Gaza strip;
- A strategic survey of Israel's northern border;
- Visits to historic and religious sites in Jerusalem and the Galilee.

No later than 30 days prior to departure, participants are responsible for submitting two forms, as well as a copy of this invitation to the Senate Select Committee on Ethics. AIEF will provide you with a copy of the "Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form." You must also submit a completed and signed "Employee Pre-Travel Authorization Form" to the Committee. AIEF is committed to ensuring that every aspect of the trip complies with the Senate travel rules. If you have any specific questions about the rules, please contact the Senate Select Committee on Ethics.

We hope that you will be able to join us on what promises to be a rich, insightful and educational trip. If you have any questions, please contact Aubrey López at (202) 330-4422. To confirm your participation, please fill out the Participant Confirmation Form to alopez@aiefdn.org.

Sincerely,

Richard Fishman
Executive Director, AIEF

AIEF is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization with the mission of providing educational programming about the U.S.-Israel relationship. AIEF strives to provide qualitative and balanced educational symposia for members of Congress and congressional staff, leaders in the fields of politics and business and students. Established in 1990, AIEF has earned a reputation for producing informative and thought-provoking educational seminars in Israel.

AMERICAN ISRAEL EDUCATION FOUNDATION | The Charitable Organization affiliated with AIPAC
2511 Street, NW | Washington, DC 20001 | Phone: 202-639-5200 | Fax: 202-347-5232

[click here](#) to unsubscribe

251 H Street NW, Washington, DC 20001

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PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL CERTIFICATION FORM

This form must be completed by any private entity offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to Senate Members, officers, or employees (Senate Rule 35, clause 2). Each sponsor of a fact-finding trip must sign the completed form. The trip sponsor(s) must provide a copy of the completed form to each invited Senate traveler, who will then forward it to the Ethics Committee with any other required materials. The trip sponsor(s) should **NOT** submit the form directly to the Ethics Committee. Please consult the accompanying instructions for more detailed definitions and other key information.

The Senate Member, officer, or employee **MUST** also provide a copy of this form, along with the appropriate travel authorization and reimbursement form, to the Office of Public Records (OPR), Room 232 of the Hart Building, within thirty (30) days after the travel is completed.

1. Sponsor(s) of the trip (please list all sponsors): American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)
2. Description of the trip: Please see attached
3. Dates of travel: August 12-20, 2017
4. Place of travel: Israel
5. Name and title of Senate invitees: Please see attached
6. I *certify* that the trip fits one of the following categories:
 - ☒ (A) The sponsor(s) are not registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal and do not retain or employ registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal and no lobbyist or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *at any point* throughout the trip.
 - OR –
 - ☐ (B) The sponsor or sponsors are not registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal, but retain or employ one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal and the trip meets the requirements of Senate Rule 35.2(a)(2)(A)(i) or (ii) (*see question 9*).
7. ☒ I *certify* that the trip will not be financed in any part by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal.
 - AND –
 - ☒ I *certify* that the sponsor or sponsors will not accept funds or in-kind contributions earmarked directly or indirectly for the purpose of financing this specific trip from a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal or from a private entity that retains or employs one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal.
8. I *certify* that:
 - ☒ The trip will not in any part be planned, organized, requested, or arranged by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal except for *de minimis* lobbyist involvement.
 - AND –
 - ☒ The traveler will not be accompanied on the trip by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal except as provided for by Committee regulations relating to lobbyist accompaniment (*see question 9*).

9. **USE ONLY IF YOU CHECKED QUESTION 6(B)**

I *certify* that if the sponsor or sponsors retain or employ one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal, one of the following scenarios applies:

☐ (A) The trip is for attendance or participation in a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and one overnight stay) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *on any segment* of the trip.

– OR –

☐ (B) The trip is for attendance or participation in a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and two overnight stays) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *on any segment* of the trip (*see questions 6 and 10*).

– OR –

☐ (C) The trip is being sponsored only by an organization or organizations designated under § 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *at any point* throughout the trip.

10. **USE ONLY IF YOU CHECKED QUESTION 9(B)**

If the trip includes two overnight stays, please explain why the second night is practically required for Senate invitees to participate in the travel:

11. ☒ An itinerary for the trip is attached to this form. I *certify* that the attached itinerary is a detailed (hour-by-hour), complete, and final itinerary for the trip.

12. Briefly describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip:

AIEF is solely responsible for recruiting, coordinating, executing, and funding all aspects of this trip.

13. Briefly describe the stated mission of each sponsor and how the purpose of the trip relates to that mission:

AIEF is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization with the mission of providing educational programming about the U.S.-Israel relationship.

14. Briefly describe each sponsor's prior history of sponsoring congressional trips:

Please see attached.

15. Briefly describe the educational activities performed by each sponsor (other than sponsoring congressional trips):

Please see attached.

16. Total Expenses for Each Participant:

	Transportation Expenses	Lodging Expenses	Meal Expenses	Other Expenses
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good Faith estimate	\$2,319.58	\$1,344	\$966	\$2,456.14
<input type="checkbox"/> Actual Amounts				Breakdown attached

17. State whether a) the trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *without regard* to congressional participation or b) the trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *specifically with regard* to congressional participation:

b) The trip involves an event that is arranged or organized specifically with regard to congressional participation.

18. Reason for selecting the location of the event or trip

The trip will take place in Israel in order to educate participants about the U.S.-Israel relationship.

19. Name and location of hotel or other lodging facility:

Inbal Jerusalem, Sheraton Tel Aviv, Nof Ginosar Tiberias

20. Reason(s) for selecting hotel or other lodging facility:

Location and affordability

21. Describe how the daily expenses for lodging, meals, and other expenses provided to trip participants compares to the maximum per diem rates for official Federal Government travel:

Please see attached

22. Describe the type and class of transportation being provided. Indicate whether coach, business-class or first class transportation will be provided. If first-class fare is being provided, please explain why first-class travel is necessary:

Participants will fly coach class on a commercial airline.

23. ☒ I represent that the travel expenses that will be paid for or reimbursed to Senate invitees do not include expenditures for recreational activities or entertainment (other than entertainment provided to all attendees as an integral part of the event, as permissible under Senate Rule 35).

24. List any entertainment that will be provided to, paid for, or reimbursed to Senate invitees and explain why the entertainment is an integral part of the event:

n/a

25. I hereby *certify* that the information contained herein is true, complete and correct. (You must include the completed signature block below for each travel sponsor.):

Signature of Travel Sponsor:

Name and Title: Richard Fishman, Executive Director

Name of Organization: American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)

Address: 251 H Street NW, Washington DC 20001

Telephone Number: (202) 639-5233

Fax Number: n/a

E-mail Address: rfishman@aiefdn.org

Senate Invitees

1. Toni-Marie Higgins, Legislative Director, Sen. John Boozman (R-AR)
2. Katie Waldman, Press Secretary, Sen. Steve Daines (R-MT)
3. Matthew Jensen, Deputy Legislative Director, Sen. Orrin Hatch (R-UT)
4. Blake Souter, Defense and Foreign Policy Analyst, Sen. Tim Kaine (D-VA)
5. Jared Jones, Military Legislative Assistant, Sen. Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV)
6. William Bode, Legislative Correspondent, Sen. Thom Tillis (R-NC)

SECRET

American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)
Educational Seminar in Israel
Congressional Staff
August 12-20, 2017

Addendum

2. Description of the Trip

This seminar, which will be on the ground in Israel for seven days, is specifically designed to explore foreign policy and defense issues related to the U.S.-Israel relationship. Some of the key issues to be addressed include: the status of Iranian compliance with the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, and Iran's continued malign regional activities; the impact of Syrian civil war along Israel's northern border; the internal political situations of both Israel and the Palestinian Authority, the status of the peace process; and the expanded cooperation between the U.S. and Israel in fighting terrorism and proliferation.

The seminar will consist of discussions with Israeli government officials, military officers, Members of the Knesset, Palestinian representatives and U.S. officials, as well as site surveys of the northern border with Lebanon and Syria, the southern border with the Gaza Strip, and the security fence. The seminar also aims to provide the political, historic, and religious context to the current conflicts and issues facing Israel and the region. It will explore the connection the three monotheistic religions have with the land and the influence this connection has on today's struggles. In addition to formal meetings and briefings, the trip provides experiential opportunities to help better understand the geographical complications, the security implications, and the historic root causes of the current conflicts.

14/15. Sponsor Information

Founded in 1990, the American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF) is the charitable organization affiliated with AIPAC, America's pro-Israel lobby. The Foundation's fundamental purpose is to maintain and further the relationship between the U.S. and Israel. AIEF works to inform the public about Israel and the importance of the U.S.-Israel relationship, to expand public awareness about issues affecting the Middle East, and to encourage participation in public affairs, especially by young people. AIEF grants support innovative and award-winning programming that educates a wide array of participants, including college students, members of Congress and their staff, and political professionals.

AIEF funds Israel Seminars for members of Congress, Capitol Hill staffers, students, political consultants, as well as religiously motivated pro-Israel Christian, Latino and African American leaders. These trips to Israel are among the most critical programs AIEF supports on behalf of the U.S.-Israel relationship. These educational seminars allow policy makers to understand the complex historical, religious and geographic context of the Arab-Israeli conflict. Participants have the opportunity to meet with Israeli government officials, military officers, members of the Knesset, U.S. government officials, Palestinian Authority officials and leading academics and journalists. For many of the participants, who make important decisions impacting Israel and the Middle East, these trips are their first, and sometimes, only exposure to the country.

16. Other Expenses

Security: \$809.52 per person

-AIEF considers the security of its trip participants as its highest priority. A security team accompanies all participants throughout the trip.

Speaker Fees: \$523.81 per person

-Honoraria for guest speakers

Travel Agency Commission: \$284 per person (single occupancy)

-AIEF pays an upcharge of 21% per room per night, split between our U.S. and Israeli travel vendors

Tour Guide: \$214.29 per person

-As a detailed historical understanding is crucial to maximizing the educational aspect of the trip, a licensed tour guide accompanies the group throughout the trip.

Hotels for contract staff (tour guide, bus driver, security guards): \$157.14 per person

Meals for contract staff and speakers: \$152.38 per person

Room Rentals: \$142.86 per person

-The cost of renting rooms at hotels and restaurants for meetings and meals with speakers.

Transportation for individualized tour of Syrian/Israel border: \$47.62

Entrance Fees: \$42.86 per person

-Several sites require an entrance fee, including the southern Western Wall excavations and the holy sites around the Sea of Galilee.

Transportation for Contract Guests and Speakers: \$28.57.

Other: \$23.81 per person

-Briefing materials, miscellaneous

Photography: \$23.81 per person

-On each trip we take a group photo with a professional photographer

Tips: 5.48 per person

-It is customary to tip the driver and tour guide that accompany trip participants.

21. Per Diem

The expenses for lodging and meals are within the international per diems for Israel. The estimate for meal expenses includes the cost for meals, snacks, and water. It does not include alcohol, as we do not pay for alcohol per Senate ethics rules.

**American Israel Education Foundation
Educational Seminar in Israel
U.S. Congressional Staff
August 12-20, 2017**

SATURDAY, AUGUST 12

4:59 PM - 6:24 PM Depart Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport

6:24 PM - 10:45 PM Arrive at Newark Liberty International Airport

10:45 PM Saturday - Depart Newark Liberty International Airport
4:20 PM Sunday

SATURDAY, AUGUST 12

4:20 PM - 7:00 PM Arrive at Ben Gurion International Airport

7:00 PM - 7:30 PM Check into the Inbal Hotel

7:30 PM Depart for dinner

7:45 PM - 8:15 PM *Setting the Stage*
Welcome and Orientation
- at Touro

8:15 PM - 9:45 PM *State of the Nation*
Dinner with Matti Friedman
Author and Journalist
- at Touro

Matti Friedman

The opening dinner features Matti Friedman, a renowned reporter with a career that has taken him from Lebanon to Morocco, Cairo, Moscow and Washington, D.C., and to conflicts in Israel in the Caucasus. Mr. Friedman is a dynamic and insightful speaker who will provide the group an illuminating synthesis of domestic political trends, current international affairs and the general state of mind of the Israeli citizens.

9:45 PM - 10:30 PM *Welcome to Jerusalem*
Understanding Jerusalem's Historic Basin

Jerusalem

Throughout its 4,000 year history, the city of Jerusalem has changed hands many times. As home to the world's three great monotheistic religions — Judaism, Christianity and Islam — Jerusalem is probably the most disputed city in history. Today, the status of Jerusalem remains the most contentious issue in the Arab-Israeli conflict. Jerusalem has been at the heart of all recent Israeli-Palestinian negotiations, from the Oslo Accords to the Camp David Summit to the Taba negotiations, and in the most recent talks under

the auspices of the U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry. To understand the current political issues, it is critical to understand Jerusalem's history and the role it has played in shaping the Middle East. This seminar will include site visits to various locations in and around Jerusalem to give participants a first-hand look at the historic significance of the city, as well as its geographic layout.

10:30 PM Overnight at the Inbal Hotel

MONDAY, AUGUST 14

7:45 AM Breakfast is served

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM *Israeli Politics Primer*
Breakfast with Professor Reuven Hazan
Political Science Department, Hebrew University
- at the hotel

Professor Reuven Hazan

It is critical for trip participants to have an understanding of the parliamentary system in Israel. Professor Hazan explains how the parliamentary party system works, how coalitions rise and fall, and how Israeli politics differ from American politics. Since the group will be visiting with government officials throughout the week, we believe it's important to provide this overview early in the seminar.

9:00 AM Session concludes

9:15 AM Depart hotel

9:30 AM - 12:30 PM *Strategic Overview of Jerusalem*
Part I : The Old City and the Holy Basin

- Church of the Holy Sepulcher
- Via Dolorosa
- Southern Wall Excavations
- Western Wall
- City of David

Old City of Jerusalem & the Holy Basin

The Old City of Jerusalem is home to the holiest shrines of the three monotheistic religions, including the Temple Mount, the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, and the Al-Aqsa Mosque. During the Camp David II talks, the Palestinians and Israelis differed on the Jerusalem question, namely the Old City, the status of Arab neighborhoods just outside the Old City, and religious sites such as the Temple Mount.

The Holy Basin is the historic location of Jerusalem and refers to the land surrounding the Old City, including the Mount of Olives, which is believed to be the departure point for Jesus' final entry into Jerusalem and where Jews have been burying their dead for 2,500 years. The Holy Basin also includes the Western Wall, Judaism's holiest site, and the Temple Mount (Haram al-Sharif), sacred ground for Jews, Muslims, and Christians. Control over these sensitive areas remains among the largest disputes in the Middle East.

being carried out in the City of David. In several instances, homes in Silwan were purchased and then destroyed to open up more areas for excavations. Additionally, Palestinian leadership has denied in their official statements the existence of any Jewish connection to Jerusalem.

12:30 PM	Depart
1:00 PM - 2:30 PM	<i>The History of Zionism</i> Lunch with Dr. Einat Wilf Senior Fellow, Jewish People Policy Institute - at Caffit
2:30 PM	Depart for the Knesset
3:00 PM	Security check
3:30 PM - 4:45 PM	<i>Israeli Democracy in Action</i> Meetings with Members of Knesset <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Honorable Sharren Haskel, Likud Party• The Honorable Dr. Nachman Shai, Zionist Union Party - at the Knesset
4:45 PM	Depart
5:00 PM - 5:45 PM	<i>Strategic Overview of Jerusalem</i> <i>Part II: Jerusalem's Outlying Neighborhoods and the Security Barrier</i>

Post-1967 Neighborhoods

When Jerusalem was reunified in 1967, following 19 years of division, the State of Israel extended the city's boundaries to include the strategic hills surrounding Jerusalem. These hills served as launching pads between 1948 and 1967 for sniper and mortar attacks on Israeli parts of the city by the Jordanian Army. Since 1967, these hills have become vibrant neighborhoods, fully integrated into the fabric of Jerusalem. It is vital for those discussing the issue of Jerusalem to understand these neighborhoods' strategic importance and their relationship to the areas in the immediate vicinity.

Security Barrier

After scores of suicide bombings and daily terrorist attacks against its civilians launched following the breakdown of the Camp David II talks, Israel began construction of a security barrier near the pre-1967 "Green Line" between Israel and the West Bank to prevent Palestinian terrorists from infiltrating into Israeli population centers. Since its construction began, the number of attacks declined by more than 90% and the number of Israelis murdered and wounded decreased by more than 70% and 85%, respectively. The barrier is approximately 455 miles long. To Israel, the security barrier serves as a necessary obstacle to protect its people. To the Palestinians and others in the world, the barrier represents a physical and symbolic divide.

This seminar will survey the security barrier at different points along its route to see first-hand the barrier's construction, the operation of crossing points in and out of Palestinian areas, and the technology that facilitates its operation. Both en route to the barrier and at the barrier itself, the group will explore the competing arguments raised by the Israelis, Palestinians and the international community.

5:45 PM	Return to hotel
7:45 PM	Depart for dinner
8:00 PM - 9:45 PM	<i>Colleague to Colleague: Knesset Staffers</i> Dinner with Knesset Staffers from various political parties <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uri Perednick, Likud • Michaela Cohen, Kulanu • Yair Zivan, Yesh Atid • Shaked Hasson, Zionist Union - at La Guta
9:45 PM	Overnight at the Inbal Hotel

TUESDAY, AUGUST 15

7:30 AM	Breakfast on your own in the main dining room Luggage in the lobby Check out
8:15 AM	Depart the hotel
8:45 AM - 11:00 AM	<i>The Meaning of the Holocaust in the Israeli Psyche</i> Visit to Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial and Museum

Yad Vashem

One cannot understand Israel's position on Iran's nuclear program without understanding the trauma of the Holocaust. Israelis view threats to its destruction in light of the events of the 1930s and 1940s, when the German government's threats to exterminate the Jewish people were not taken seriously by the international community. This museum provides an important reference point as to how Israelis interpret the threat of an Iranian nuclear program and Iranian leaders committed to Israel's destruction.

Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Authority, was established in 1953 by an act of the Israeli Knesset. Since its inception, Yad Vashem has been entrusted with documenting the history of the Jewish people during the Holocaust period, preserving the memory and story of each of the six million victims, and imparting the legacy of the Holocaust for generations to come through its archives, library, school, museums and recognition of the Righteous Among the Nations. Located on Har Hazikaron (the Mount of Remembrance) in Jerusalem, Yad Vashem is a sprawling complex of museums, exhibits, archives, monuments, sculptures, and memorials.

Every foreign leader that travels to Israel visits Yad Vashem. Yad Vashem has become a symbol of the Jewish people and its transformation from total helplessness to self-reliance and strength. Thus, a visit to Yad Vashem provides a historical context for the Jewish state. The museum's professional docent will guide the group through the main exhibit hall and the children's memorial.

11:00 AM	Depart
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County in California to develop the largest desalinization plant in the U.S. This came at a critical time when the governor of California has declared the first ever state-wide mandatory reductions on water as a result of one of the most severe droughts in California's history.

- 6:00 PM Check into Sheraton Tel Aviv Hotel
- 7:45 PM Depart for dinner
- 8:00 PM - 9:30 PM *Regional Threats Overview and the Palestinian Street*
Dinner with:
- Avi Issacharoff Arab Affairs Correspondent, Times of Israel
 - Amos Harel, Military Affairs Correspondent, Ha'aretz
- at Lumina
- 9:30 PM Overnight at the Sheraton Tel Aviv Hotel

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16

- 7:15 AM Breakfast on own at the hotel
- 8:15 AM Depart for southern Israel
- 9:30 AM - 10:00 AM *Life under Rocket Fire*
Part I: Briefings on Israel's Border with the Gaza Strip
- at Kibbutz Nir Am
- 10:00 AM Depart
- 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM *Life Under Rocket Fire*
Part II: Meeting with Oshrit Sabag, local resident
- at Kibbutz Nahal Oz

Life Under Rocket Fire

Since 2001, Israeli communities bordering the Gaza Strip have been living under the threat of rocket fire. Since the Israeli withdrawal from the Gaza Strip in 2005 and the Hamas takeover of the Gaza Strip in 2007, the volume, range and accuracy of the rockets has only increased. The summer of 2014 witnessed Operation Protective Edge, which returned the issue of rocket fire from Gaza to international headlines. At Kibbutz Nir Am, participants will be able to see the border between Israel and the Gaza Strip, to better comprehend the landscape of the region, as well as the unique challenges faced by this area. The visit to Kibbutz Nal Oz and meeting with a local resident will be an opportunity to better understand the reality of living just kilometers from Israel's border with Gaza, to learn how almost 15 years of rocket fire has shaped those living in the communities most affected, to discuss the advent of Hamas "terror tunnels" into Israel's border towns and how communities have sought to cope with the threat on their doorstep, both physically and psychologically.

- 11:30 AM Depart

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7:45 AM Breakfast is served

9:15 AM Depart for northern Israel

Alfei Menashe

The sliver of Israeli land west of the West Bank is often referred to as the Hadera-Gadera rectangle, with the city of Hadera denoting the northern point, and the city of Gadera the southern point. The Hadera-Gadera rectangle is home to over 50 percent of Israel's population, as well as civilian infrastructure. The area is also home to Israel's "Silicon Valley," as well as Ben Gurion international airport.

10:45 AM - 12:30 PM Depart

- *The Jezreel Valley: The Strategic Land Bridge connecting Asia and Africa*
- *Upper Galilee: Potential for Development*

Our tour guide will spend an hour during the drive from Israel's center to the north to provide the delegation a briefing on the Jezreel Valley and the Upper Galilee and the challenges facing these regions of the country.

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12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	<i>Israel's Northern Border</i> <i>Part II: Briefing on the border with Syria</i> With Cpt. (Res.) Ilan Shulman - at Ein Zivan
1:00 PM	Depart
1:15 PM - 2:30 PM	Lunch Joined by IDF soldiers serving in a variety of units - at Habokrim
2:30 PM - 5:30 PM	Depart for Jerusalem Travel via the Jordan Valley En route briefings: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Israel's Relations with the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan</i>• <i>Jordan's Syrian Refugee Crisis</i>

Jordan: Relations with Israel, and the Growing Refugee Crisis

The tour guide will spend approximately an hour during the drive through the Jordan Valley to explore several topics related to Israel's eastern neighbor: specifically, Israeli-Jordanian strategic cooperation, as well as the implications of the Syrian civil war on the Kingdom.

The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan became the second Arab country after Egypt to recognize Israel when it signed a comprehensive peace agreement that ended nearly five decades of warfare. Shepherded by United States President Bill Clinton, the accord signed on Oct. 6, 1994, marked the onset of a new era of economic, cultural, and political dialogue and cooperation between the two countries.

In recent years, the two countries have worked together to combat the increased threat from terrorism by coordinating their security efforts and preventing infiltrations across their shared border. Today, Jordan hosts over 1.4 million Syrian refugees fleeing civil war. Following our discussion with Israeli soldiers patrolling the Syrian border, our guide will address how the influx of Syrian refugees and the threats in the region impact Jordan internally; as well as relations and further potential for strategic partnership between Jordan, the United States, and Israel.

5:30 PM	Check into the Inbal Jerusalem Hotel
7:15 PM	Depart
7:45 PM - 9:00 PM	<i>Reflections on the Sabbath in Jerusalem</i> Traditional Sabbath dinner with Rabbi Susan Silverman and Yossi Abramowitz - at their home in Jerusalem
9:00 PM	Overnight at the Inbal Hotel

SATURDAY, AUGUST 19

8:00 AM Breakfast on own
- at the hotel, main dining room

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En route briefing:
Jericho Road and the E-1 Corridor: Strategic Concerns

Jericho Road and the E-1 Corridor

On the drive from Jerusalem to Masada, the group will travel on the highway known as the “Jericho Road” is the strategic importance of the area east of Jerusalem. In 1948 and in 1967, the Jordanian army attacked Jerusalem from the east – the 1948 attack resulted in the city’s division that lasted until 1967. Since then Israel has established the City of Ma’ale Adumim east of Jerusalem, today home to some 40,000 residents. To the Palestinians, however, Ma’ale Adumim is the largest settlement on the West Bank. When Israel attempted to expand Ma’ale Adumim’s boundary, into an area known as “E-1,” the U.S. State Department stepped in and asked that no construction take place there. The issue needs to be examined with those discussing the future of Jerusalem in the context of the Israeli-Palestinian negotiations.

10:00 AM *History and Geopolitics of the Roman Empire*
Visit to Masada National Archeological Site

Masada

The Sabbath in Israel begins Friday afternoon and concludes on Saturday evening. During the Sabbath, virtually everything in the country is closed including all government offices, businesses, newspapers etc. Therefore, for years, we have used Saturdays to expose our congressional members and staff delegations to some of the key historical and cultural sites in Israel such as Masada. Masada, which was excavated in the 1960s, is considered one of the most important archeological sites in Israel, indeed in the whole world.

Masada was the site of the last stand of the Jews in Israel after the Romans destroyed Jerusalem and the Holy Temple in 70 A.D. A group of Jewish zealots fled to the Judean Desert and lived in the former mountaintop fortress of King Herod known as Masada for two years resisting the onslaught of the most powerful army in the world. Determined to break the resistance, the Romans finally scaled the mountain to capture and enslave the Jewish rebels. However, when they finally arrived, they found that all the men, women and children had killed themselves as a last act of defiance. They refused to give in to the Romans and become their slaves.

The ancient story of Masada has important contemporary relevance for the modern State of Israel. "Masada shall never fall again" has become the watchword of the country which has faced existential threats since its founding in 1948. Israel's elite military units, for example, are sworn in on top of Masada in a symbolic act of defiance against Israel's contemporary enemies. These soldiers along with the thousands of Israeli school children who visit Masada each year learn the lesson that Israel should never become so weak again that it would ever face national suicide as an option.

We will spend approximately two hours atop of Masada with a professional guide. The time at Masada with the guide is focused on three areas: 1. viewing the magnificent ancient excavations; 2. learning the narrative of Jewish resistance to the Romans backed by the archeological and historical evidence; 3. discussing the importance of the Masada story to the contemporary Middle East and the threats in the region.

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SUNDAY, AUGUST 20